subscribers @ 12% for 2000-2001. The recommendations of the Central Board were considered and as average earning of the EPF from April 2000 onward is around 11% it has been decided to credit interest in accounts of the EPF subscribers @ 11% interest for the year 2000-01. In determining the rate of interest on EPF the Central Government has also been guided by the provisions of paragraph 60(4) of the EPF Scheme under which the Central Government is required to ensure that there is no overdrawal on the interest suspense account as a result of giving interest to the EPF subscribers. As such, there is no violation of the Act/Scheme in this regard.

Surplus Employees in Government Offices

† 587. DR. D. MASTHAN:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce the size of the administration;

(b) if so, whether Government have also ascertained the number of surplus employees before taking the above decision;

(c) if so, what is the total number of surplus employees; and

(d) what is the number of surplus employees, Ministry-wise and category-wise separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) has been issuing instructions from time to time to control creation of Plan and Non-Plan posts and thereby to reduce the expenditure on establishment. In August, 1999, instructions were issued by that Ministry to all the Ministries/

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Departments, *inter alia,* to undertake a review of all the posts which were lying vacant in the Ministries/Departments and in their Attached and Subordinate Offices, etc. in consultation with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure). These instructions envisage that till the review is completed, no vacant posts will be filled up except with the approval of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure). Further, such Ministries/Departments as had not fully implemented the Government's decision to achieve 10% reduction in the number of posts (as on 1.1.1992) have been asked to implement that decision immediately. According to the information available with the Ministry of Finance, approximately 1.83 lakh posts have been abolished in various Ministries/Departments as a result of this exercise.

(b) to (d) Employees are rendered surplus from time to time on account of restructuring of various Ministries and Departments as well as changes in technology. Studies undertaken by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) have also led to identification of surplus staff. As far as the actual number of employees belonging to various services/cadres etc. declared surplus to the need of the Ministries/Departments is concerned, it is not centrally monitored. The names of such personnel . declared surplus who fulfil the eligibility conditions as laid down "in the Scheme for the disposal of personnel rendered surplus, are placed on the rolls of the Central (Surplus Staff) Cell (administered by the Department of Personnel and Training in respect of Group 'A', 'B' and 'C employees) and Special Cell (administered by Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour in respect of Group 'D' employees) for redeployment elsewhere. The number of surplus employees available on the rolls of the above referred Surplus Cell/Special Cell awaiting redeployment as on 1 July, 2000 is given in the annexed Statement.

Statement

Number of employees in the surplus cell of the department of personnel & training and special cell of the directorate general of employment and training, ministry of labour

As on 1.7.2000

SI. No	Name of Ministry	Group				Total
		'A'	'B'	'C'	'D'	
1.	Ministry of Agriculture	1	2	9	0	12
2.	Ministry of Textiles	0	0	177	153	330
3.	Ministry of Civil Aviation	5	0	0	0	5
4.	Ministry of Human Resource Development	0	0	13	21	34
5.	Ministry of Home Affairs	0	1	0	0	1
6.	Ministry of Information & Broadcasting	0	2	2	15	19
7.	Ministry of Steel	0	0	2	1	3
8.	Ministry of Tourism & Culture	0	0	10	1	11
9.	Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation	0	0	1	0	1
10.	Ministry of Water Resources	0	0	0	9	9
11	Ministry of Heavy Industry & Public Enterprises	0	0	0	4	4
12.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	0	0	0	1	1

*These employees belong to Office of Development *Commissioner* (Handicrafts)

Sl. No	Name of the Ministry	Group 'A'	'B'	'C'	'D'	Total
13.	Ministry of Planning & Programme Implementation (Now bifurcated into Ministry of Planning & Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation)	0	0	0	1	1
14.	Ministry of Chemical & Fertilisers	0	0	0	2	2
	Total	6	5	214	2G8	433

Posts Vacant for SCsSTs

588. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3010 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th April, 2000 and state:

(a) the number of vacant posts of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes out of total vacant posts in different Ministries/ Departments and details thereof, and

(b) the steps being taken to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND ; PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The data regarding the number of posts vacant in Central Government Offices published by Pay Research Unit of Ministry of Finance does not contain information regarding vacant posts reserved for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes. However, as per information received from various

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi,